WASHINGTON STAR

NOV 4 1956

Approved For Release 1999/09/17 : CIA-RDP75-0[redacted]

Perforated Part Removed by Army Doctors

Post-Operative Condition Is Said To Be Satisfactory

By JAMES C. NEWTON

Secretary of State Dulles yesterday underwent an emergency operation in Walter Reed Hospital in which doctors removed "a portion of the large intestine which had perforated."

Lincoln White, State Department press officer, told reporters that the operation required two and a half hours and that the Secretary left the operating room "in good condition." He said that to his knowledge there was no indication of malignancy, but added, "I am no medical man."

The doctors, prior to the actual operation, had diagnosed Mr. Dulles' condition as acute appendicitis.

They had added that this diagnosis was "provisional," indicating they were not entirely sure of it.

Secretary's Spirits 'Good'

Mr. White at 9 p.m. made the following statement on the 68-year-old Secretary's condition:

"The condition of the Secretary of State in the immediate post-operative period has become stabilized and is satisfactory. His temperature is 100.4, pulse 68, blood pressure 140/75, which the doctors tell me is good."

The State Department press officer went on to say that Mr. Dulles was fully conscious, has talked with Mrs. Dulles and the doctors and "is in good spirits." He said the next bulletin on the Secretary's condition would be issued at 3 p.m. today.

Mr. White still was unable to describe Mr. Dulles' ailment in detail and said he did not know how large a portion of the large intestine was removed. He also pleaded ignorance as to what the doctors believed was the cause of the perforation.

He said in answer to a question of whether any growth on the intestine was malignant, that tests were being made for that and the answer would be known in due time.

Doctors Not Available

Reporters during the long evening repeatedly asked Mr. White if they could talk with Gen. Heaton or any of the doctors who attended Mr. Dulles to get a little more information as to the cause of the Secretary's illness. Mr. White said repeatedly that the doctors were not available for questioning.

Mrs. Dulles spent the night in a bedroom of the Presidential suite at the hospital. Mr. White said that President Eisenhower had been kept in constant touch with the Secretary's condition through his personal physician, Maj. Gen. Howard M. Snyder. The State Department press officer said the Secretary would have nurses around the clock and a doctor in attendance at all times and that he had no idea when Mr. Dulles would be able to see visitors.

In answer to a specific question, Mr. White said he could not say whether the perforation of the large bowel was caused by ulcers or for that matter, that was the cause. A reporter pointed out that his reticence would lead to a lot of speculation that cancer might be involved. Mr. White said he couldn't help that. He added that he couldn't say whether further surgery might be necessary.

Early Attack Described

Mr. White gave some further details on the early part of the Secretary's illness.

He said that he went to bed Friday night at about 10 o'clock and was awakened about 11 o'clock by severe pains in the abdominal region. He said the Secretary went back to sleep and was awakened again at 2 o'clock by recurring pains.

At that time, according to Mr. White, Mrs. Dulles called Dr. A. D. Daughton, the family physician, who arrived around 3 a.m. Dr. Daughton called in Dr. John H. Lyon, well-known Washington surgeon and the two doctors made some preliminary tests.

Mr. White said the doctors left and returned to the Dulles home a little after 5 a.m., made more tests and decided to take the Secretary to the hospital.

His trouble was diagnosed as appendicitis, and it was for this ailment that surgery was undertaken. The real cause was determined after the operation began.

Mr. White said that it was "contemplated" that the Secretary would be in the hospital for a period of two to three weeks.

"The doctors think he should be able to return to his desk in approximately six weeks," the press officer added.

Mr. White said that the Secretary "is resting comfortably and is in good condition. His pulse is 76. His blood pressure is 126/75."

The operation on Mr. Dulles was performed by Maj. Gen. Leonard D. Heaton, commandant of the hospital, who operated on President Eisenhower for ileitis last June.

He was assisted by Dr. John H. Lyons, prominent Washington surgeon, and two Walter Reed Hospital staff members, Col. Robert Gants and Col. Max Smith.

Appendix Not Involved

Mr. White said he did not know how large a section of the intestine was removed in the operation or what had caused the perforation.

Mr. Dulles was wheeled into the operating room at 1:35 p.m. and returned to the presidential suite, which also was occupied by Mr. Eisenhower last June, shortly before 5 p.m.

Mr. White said the doctors discovered upon operating that the "appendix was not involved."

Mr. Dulles was stricken with abdominal pains at his home early yesterday and was taken to Walter Reed at 7 a.m. The first diagnosis indicated acute appendicitis.

Mr. White said the 68-year-old Secretary rested comfortably in the hospital in the hours preceding the operation.

In fact, the department press aide added, Mr. Dulles continued to transact business by telephone from the presidential suite at the hospital.

He "reviewed developments" in the Middle East crisis with President Eisenhower and Undersecretary of State Herbert Hoover, jr., who is in charge of the department during Mr. Dulles' absence.

Wife at Hospital

With the stricken Secretary at the hospital were Mrs. Dulles, his brother, Allen Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency; his special department assistant, William B. Macomber, and his personal secretary, Miss Phyllis Bernau.

Mr. Dulles was stricken in the midst of tense diplomatic maneuvering over two world crises—the fighting in the Middle East and apparent Russian intervention in strife-torn Hungary.

Only yesterday, he returned from New York where he asked for and won a United Nations General Assembly vote calling for a cease-fire in Egypt.

The White House said that Mr. Eisenhower was being informed on the Secretary's condition by Maj. Gen. Howard M. Snyder, the President's physician.

Mr. Dulles had always set a fast pace for himself ever since he took the cabinet post in January, 1953.

There has been some speculation recently that he might resign shortly in the event of Mr. Eisenhower's re-election. But he said yesterday he knew nothing about the reports.

Senator Bender, Republican of Ohio, had said that he had heard from "responsible sources" that Mr. Dulles planned to resign.

Asked about the Bender report, White House Secretary James C. Hagerty said he had never heard it mentioned.

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